

Minnesota DHIA News

A PUBLICATION OF MINNESOTA DHIA

Volume 15 Issue 1

JANUARY 2015

GROEN, SORGE, WELLS, DOORNINK AT DISTRICT MEETINGS

- Meetings start with lunch at 11:30, followed by our guest speaker
- District business meeting will be held during lunch. MN DHIA directors will be elected in the Metro, South East, and South Central Districts as noted
- Software Users meetings will start at 10:15 in the South East and South Central
- Lunch is free of charge if you call our office to pre-register 1(800) 827-3442 ext 0

Smart Stockmanship Dates:

Wednesday, February 11, 2015: North West District at Speak Easy in **Detroit Lakes** (next to Holiday Inn on the east end of town - 1100 North Shore Drive).

Monday, February 16, 2015: North East District at Freddie's in **Mora** (810 Hwy 65 S)

Tuesday March 3, 2015: West Central District at Oaks in **Willmar** (1000 26th Avenue Northeast @ Eagle Creek Golf Course)

Speaker Info:

Ulrike 'Riki' Sorge Assistant Professor
Dairy Production Medicine



Topics: Smart Stockmanship – Principles for management and handling your herd
Practical Johne's Prevention

Handling and animal care is a major part of this business for the animals, the people, and your bottom line. Smart Stockmanship will focus on common sense animal care, effective approaches to moving cows, and minimizing consequences in your herd. Discussion will be of interest to new comers and longtime producers. Riki has done extensive research on Johne's in Ontario as well as Minnesota.

Leukosis Central District on Thursday March 5 at the Cornerstone in Melrose. Featuring Dr. Scott Wells, noted U of M researcher discussing the impact of Leukosis as well as testing and prevention.

Foot Care w Brant Groen

Wed March 4 SW District at Pizza Ranch 1927 S Broadway St, New Ulm

Fri March 6 Metro District at Waconia Unhinged Pizza *election*

Brant Groen is a former Dairy Management educator at Ridgewater College as well as an entertaining speaker. Brant will be giving a presentation chock full of practical advice for controlling lameness in your herd. It's estimated that foot problems affect nearly a third of dairy cattle at some time in their life – this session is sure to yield some great tips for every dairy farmer.



DC 305 Users at 10:15

With Mark Doornink of Valley Ag Software

Wed Feb 18 SC District at Pine Island American Legion 108 1st Ave SE *election*

Thur Feb 19 SE District at Brewski's 110 East Main Street in **Utica** *election*

Barron Washburn district meeting in Barron WI on Tuesday Feb 17 at the courthouse in Barron at 10:30.

Johne's Testing Update

We are in our third month of limited Free Johne's testing funded by the state of Minnesota. We have seen a near tripling of sample volume with many producers taking advantage of this program. It now appears the funding will last into May for those who have not yet used your 30 free tests. Results are shared with the Board of Animal Health, but they are not public, and the Board is simply encouraging anyone with positive cows to contact them for a free on-farm risk assessment. The good news is that many of the herds now testing are finding the preventative measures and good management they put in place as a part of the past program has paid off. Many herds are finding no Johne's positive cows, and a nearly equal number are finding only a cow or two. NAHMS studies show that it is likely about 60% of dairy herds in MN have at least one Johne's cow. This program is your chance to see where your herd stands without fear of stigma or repercussions. Use the information to manage your way into a healthier and more profitable herd.

Bruce Dokkebakken



What can DHIA do for you DHIA Service Reminders

1. All reports are optional on each sample day.
2. All herds should be offered monthly tests (12 per year) as a service standard – 59% of MnDHIA herds have 12 tests in the last 365 days, and we are now supplying twice a month service to one dairy
3. Herds may ask for a special test at any time, for example you can have a test any time to help evaluate SCC.
4. PCR DNA testing for mastitis pathogens uses the DHIA milk sample to test for mastitis pathogens present. Ask your Field Rep for more information .
5. Computers should accompany Field Reps to farms, with printed reports available on the farm on sample day (this does happen on nearly all farms – if it isn't happening on yours – it is an exception).
6. Meters and other equipment should be clean and sanitary when delivered and when it leaves your farm. Field personnel should wear rubber footwear and should clean and sanitize the footwear before leaving your farm. If you have any concerns on cleanliness, please visit with your Field Rep on sample day.

	Johne's Total	Total Positive	% Pos
2006	1,161	33	2.8%
2007	20,011	899	4.5%
2008	38,571	2,093	5.4%
2009	35,027	1,743	5.0%
2010	34,584	1,395	4.0%
2011	35,324	1,293	3.7%
2012	35,214	1,400	4.0%
2013	34,071	1,211	3.6%
2014	40,450	1,581	3.9%
	233,963	8,857	3.8%

Of the nearly 12,000 cows tested by milk sample for Johne's in the last 2 months, 2.6% have been positive.

**CONGRATULATIONS
HOUSTON COUNTY LED
IN MILK QUALITY
WITH AN AVERAGE OF
178,000
FOR ALL HERDS
FOR 2014**

COWS FOR SALE

Entire herd of approximately 33 grade Holsteins. History of AI breeding done in this herd. For more information, please contact CB Farms, LLC, Brede Christianson in Greenbush, MN at 218.689.7435.

Is Lameness Affecting Your Bottom Line?

Lameness is a concern for herds of all sizes and styles. Studies have shown that dairy herds in the United States have one quarter to over a third of cattle affected by clinical lameness at any given time. Nearly 16% of all cows culled are a result of lameness. Even if it doesn't end with a culled cow, lameness is impacting your bottom line with decreased production, inhibited reproductive performance and additional labor costs – all on top of the cost of treatment.

The first thing to understand about lameness is that it is really a grouping of many different diseases into one category. Infectious diseases of the foot such as foot rot and digital dermatitis (hairy warts) can be transferred from cow to cow and herd to herd. Non-infectious foot problem, such as ulcers, cracks, erosion or white line disease have mechanical or metabolic causes.

Because lameness comes in many different types with different causes and treatments, record-keeping becomes essential. Once you know which type or types of lameness are the most prevalent in your herd, you can take specific steps to address the problem. Infectious diseases are primarily spread via manure and incubated by a warm, wet environment. Non-infectious causes of lameness can have roots in the feed ration and cow comfort. Increased standing time, rushed cow movement and slippery or hard walkways can all be contributing factors.

Lameness may be a complicated issue, but with the economic impact to your bottom line, it's worth getting under control. For those with on-farm software, we offer a tool called Lameness Manager that can help you record and track your lameness data. If you are interested please call our office at 800.827.3442.

Herd Size	Lameness Incidence	Total Cost per Year
	20%	\$6,000
100	30%	\$9,000
	40%	\$12,000
	20%	\$30,000
500	30%	\$45,000
	40%	\$60,000
	20%	\$60,000
1000	30%	\$90,000
	40%	\$120,000

Brant Groen will be speaking on lameness prevention and care at the Metro (Waconia on March 6) and Southwest (New Ulm on March 4) District Meetings at noon. All members are welcome to attend.

The Hidden Cost of Leukosis

Bovine Leukosis Virus, also known as BLV, is emerging as a growing concern among dairy producers. Some countries, such as Denmark, have spent considerable time and effort trying to eliminate it completely. Like Johne's disease, Leukosis flies under the radar until it's too late. An article in Hoard's Dairyman stated that nearly half of all carcasses marked "unsalable" were infected with BLV. BLV-positive cows also had a 23% higher chance of being culled than their non-infected herdmates. BLV has been shown to decrease milk production, reduce reproductive function and cause down cows. It is estimated that 40% of the cows in 90% of the dairy herds in the United States have Bovine Leukosis Virus.

So the question is – what can you do about it? There is no treatment or vaccine for BLV, but there is a 98% accurate milk test. Once you have determined the level of infection in your herd, you can mark BLV-positive cows and take action to stop the spread of the disease. BLV is transferred via white blood cells, so focus on anything that might touch blood – that includes sharing needles, palpation gloves, colostrum and waste milk. When BLV-positive cows have been identified, you can choose to palpate and give injections to them after healthy cows have been completed. You can also avoid feeding colostrum and waste milk from these cows. Unfortunately, the disease can also be passed in utero, so a regular testing plan is key.

Minnesota DHIA offers a simple milk test for BLV that utilizes your regular DHIA milk sample – just ask your filed representative on your next test day.

Dr. Scott Wells of the University of Minnesota will be speaking on Leukosis at the Central District Meeting at the Cornerstone in Melrose on Thursday March 5 at noon. All members are welcome to attend.

December Milk Quality Leaders ranked by SCC, then Log SCC

*denotes herd owner name used in lieu of farm name

	SCC	Cows		SCC	Cows
RKB DAIRY	38	128	STELLING FARMS	72	291
*JOHN HOLMGREN	42	9	*MICHAEL & DONNA RUTHER	72	130
MAREN JEREMY HOLST LTD	45	100	*JOHN & JASON SCHROEDER	72	55
BILL & NORMA ROUSAR	46	48	*JACOB + GREG GOLOMBESKI	73	35
*DAVID & CINDY HOESE	46	33	SCHEFERS BROTHERS	74	77
*LYLE AND WANDA HONEBRINK	46	110	MOGER FARMS	74	71
*JASON HESSE	47	101	*JIM EVANS	75	117
*CORY SALZL	48	4	PETER M & LYNN HENDRICKSON	75	62
KUGATH FARMS	49	52	HIDDEN HILL DAIRY LLC	75	364
*MARK KLEHR	50	57	LEISEN FARMS INC.	76	71
SELKE FARMS	50	238	AUSPICIOUS OYSTER GRANGE	76	87
SCHREIBER BROS	50	89	*KELLY AND KURTIS RONNINGEN	77	95
SCHMITT DAIRY	51	96	*JOHN LARSEN	77	19
J & K FARMS	53	51	RIVER VALLEY DAIRY LLC	78	115
*DALE AND JULIE SCHWARTZ	55	103	*LARRY LEXVOLD FAMILY	78	46
GREGORY DAIRY LLC	56	90	*CLETUS & LINDA MILLER	78	33
CHUCKKLAPHAKE JARRETTBORG	56	105	BENGTSON FAMILY FARM	79	45
NU-DIMENSION HOLSTEINS	57	28	*RYAN KNISLEY	79	61
*MIKE HERZING	57	30	BREEZY HILL DAIRY	79	509
MARSHALL KORN	57	68	*GREGORY P. ZILKA	79	31
*RON & LORI PAGEL	58	60	RONALD & SUSAN JOHNSON	79	60
BIRCH POINT FARMS PESHON	59	278	KCE FARM	79	87
*DAVID SMITH	59	24	LIESER DAIRY	80	85
HIESERICH FARM	59	88	*RANDY GRABAU	80	26
HILKE-ERIC	59	99	HAPPKE HOLSTEIN FARM	80	115
HOEFS' DAIRY	60	273	METOGGA LAKES DAIRY LLC	80	436
*JERRY & BEV POHLMANN	60	71	*MAYNARD & JEREMY SCHUMACHER	80	112
J&K HEMMESCH DAIRY	60	40	DQ GODE DAIRY	80	45
*DOUG PELKA	60	59	*DEAN RAUSCH	81	73
*STEVE MARTIN	60	66	*DALE AUSTING	81	109
JOHNSON DAIRY	61	110	JOHNSON DENNIS+DARREN	81	166
*KEVIN+CAROL SCHAFER	62	27	JIM KLAPHAKE	81	60
KUECHLE DAIRY	62	236	MITCHELL KRUGER DAIRY	83	46
*TIMOTHY L JOHNSON	63	41	*TREVOR DICKE	83	92
SHIR-MAN HOLSTEIN FARM	63	70	*JOHN & KRIS MILLER	83	234
*RICK STOCKER	64	85	*DAVID JONES	84	55
DA-MAR HOLSTEINS	64	47	NORTH STAR DAIRY	84	26
ZUMBRO VIEW FARMS LLC	65	60	DEER BROOK FARM	85	378
*FRANK & IONE PATRICK	65	55	*JOEL AND NICOLE GROSS	85	48
CRAZY DAISY DAIRY	66	128	*JUSTIN & TRACIE FROELICH	86	67
TOWER VIEW DAIRY	66	57	GROOTERS DAIRY	86	61
LINDAHL FARMS	67	120	KIMM'S DAIRY	87	80
*TOM & MARY GUNNINK	67	82	KIEFLAND HOLSTEINS LLC	87	346
*MICHAEL BRUCE	67	83	ROADSIDE DAIRY	87	135
*JIM AND LANCE LARSEN	67	68	*BOB & KAYLIE GRUBER	87	100
*REUBEN& JANICE STOMMES	68	65	*MIKE AND DONNA TELLERS	87	59
*DAVID & SUE OLSON	68	305	*LESTER DONNA BANSE	87	188
*ANDY & DARIENNE FRICKSON	68	88	*GARY LIESER	87	47
JOHN BOSL	68	39	*PETER+DAVID BURFEIND	88	284
BOETTCHER DAIRY	69	160	*MARK BROSIG	88	223
*MARVIN RADEMACHER	69	55	DEVOINE KRUSE	88	148